

Amendments to the Claims:

1-13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) An insulating cover for an attic access opening, the insulating cover comprising: associated with attic trap doors and/or pull down attic ladders which includes,

a continuous frame having spaced side walls and spaced end walls and which frame is formed of a free standing insulating material, said frame defining an opening therethrough for alignment with the access opening and said frame being of a size and configuration so as to be adapted to surround the access opening; and [[,]]

a closure member formed of a free standing insulating material and having side and end walls, said closure member including a depending central portion of a size to fit within said opening defined by said frame and frictionally and snugly engage said side walls and end walls of said frame to create a first continuous seal within said frame when positioned within said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame, and said closure member including flange portions which extend laterally outwardly relative to said depending central portion for seating against upper surfaces of said side and end walls of said frame to thereby form a second continuous seal with said frame;

wherein said closure member becomes independent from said continuous frame when said closure member is disengaged from said opening defined by said frame.

15. (cancelled)

16. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said side and end walls of said closure member are tapered from an upper surface of said closure member toward a lower surface thereof, and said side and end walls of said frame are tapered inwardly from an upper surface toward a lower surface of said side and end walls thereof such that said tapered side and end walls of said closure member cooperatively engage said tapered side and end walls of said frame.

17. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said frame includes a generally continuous depending portion extending from each of said side and end walls, said generally continuous depending portions being configured so as to extend within the access opening and to frictionally seat within and seal a structural frame defining the access opening.

18-19 (cancelled)

20. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 17 wherein said frame includes an upper section which extends laterally outwardly about said generally continuous depending portion thereof so as to be seated above the frame defining the access opening.

21. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 20 including at least one handle mounted to extend from a lower surface of said depending central portion of said closure member so as to be accessible within the access opening when the insulating cover is in place.

22. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 including at least one handle extending from a lower surface of said closure member so as to be accessible within the access opening when the insulating cover is in place.

23. (cancelled)

24. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said closure member includes at least first and second components each having opposing edges which are configured to cooperatively engage one another to create a seal therebetween, and means for adhesively securing said opposing edges so as to form a unified closure member.

25. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 including said closure member and said frame being coated with a fire retardant material.

26. (cancelled)

27. (previously presented) The insulating cover of claim 14 in which said insulating material of said closure member and said frame is an expanded polymeric material.

28. (new) The insulating cover of claim 14 wherein said cover is sized and shaped to enclose an attic trap door.

29. (new) The insulating cover of claim 14 wherein said cover is sized and shaped to enclose an attic access ladder.

30. (new) The insulating cover of claim 14 wherein said first continuous seal and said second continuous seal are at generally right angles to each other.

31. (new) The insulating cover of claim 14 wherein said closure member comprises at least two pieces, the two pieces having a seal between them when positioned within said frame in covering relationship with respect to said opening defined by said frame.

32. (new) The insulating cover of claim 31 wherein said two pieces are adhered together.